

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program  
MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife  
Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581  
(508) 792-7270 x 165

## RARE PLANT OBSERVATION FORM

## OBSERVER INFORMATION

Observer's Name, Address, and Phone:

Arthur Haines  
Woodlot Alternatives, Inc.  
122 Main Street, Number 3  
Topsham, ME 04086  
207-729-1199  
Species Scientific Name:

Eleocharis intermedia

NHESP Element Occurrence Number (if known):

Observation Date:

8 September 1999

Today's Date:

8 November 1999

## LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

a) USGS Quad Name and Series (7.5"x7.5" or 7.5"x15"): Pittsfield East  
County: Berkshire  
Town: Pittsfield

b) Directions to location of observations (please attach USGS map):

Upstream of Waste Water Treatment Plant, Downstream of Sackett Brook  
and pipeline crossing, on east shore of a short North→south flowing  
section of River, east of a Gravel Pit noted on Topo map. A smaller population  
exists upstream on west bank (2x5 meter Area).

Approximate UTM Coordinates - 4697030 N - 0644790

- c) Habitat: (plant communities, associated vegetation, physical characteristics, geological features, surrounding land use.

Are other rare species present?)

Wet silt/sand bar of Low gradient stream. Growing with  
*Lindernia dubia*, *Ludwigia palustris*, *Xanthium strumarium*, *Persicaria sagittata*,  
*Bidens cernua*, *Eragrostis pectinacea*, *Persicaria pennsylvanica*, *Persicaria*  
*lapathifolia*, *Bidens frondosa*, *Panicum dichotomiflorum*.

POPULATION INFORMATION:

Population found? (Y/N):

If No, is population presumed extirpated and why?

If Yes,

Number of mature plants: 25

Number of immature plants:

Number of plants age unknown:

Population area (give unit of measurement):

2 X 15 meters

Percent of population:

in leaf:

in bud:

in flower:

with immature fruit:

mature fruit: 100

senescent:

Observations of floral visitors, fruit dispersers:

None observed

Vigor of individuals and population:

Apparently vigorous

Evidence of expansion or decline:

none observed

Have you observed this species at this site in previous years?

Please give details:

NO

#### SITE PHYSIOGRAPHY

Elevation: 293 m

Topographic position (crest, upper slope, mid slope, lower slope, bottom?):

Edge of Stream channel

Aspect (north, south, east, west, flat?):

Slope (0-20 degrees, 20-45 degrees, 45-75 degrees, vertical?):

Light (open, filtered, shade?):

Moisture (inundated, wet, mesic, dry, xeric?):

Soil types: Fluvial silt with organic material mixed in.

Surficial rock types (with percent of ground covered):

NA

Bedrock/parent material:

Unknown

Surficial water (distance away and source):

Housatonic River, 1 meter

MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

MNRESP Site Name (if any):

Managed Area (if any): Land appears to be part of Housatonic River Valley  
State Wildlife Management Area.

Comments/Management recommendations:

Disturbance or threats (natural or unnatural) to population:

Changes in water level; weed species invading site

Land Owner's Name, Address, and Phone:

Ownership Comments:

#### ELEMENT OCCURRENCE (EO) SUMMARY

(Circle one choice in each category)

EO Quality

How representative is this occurrence? Consider the size and

productivity of the population and the vitality and vigor of the individuals.

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments:

#### EO Condition

Is the habitat supporting the EO pristine or degraded? Is there a potential for the habitat to recover from disturbances?

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments: Though floodplain is contaminated by PCB's

#### EO Viability

What are the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence at the indicated level of quality?

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments: Area is surrounded by Agriculture/developed lands that contain abundant sources of non-native plants. *Lythrum salicaria* is present in high density in vernal pools adjacent to this shoreline.

#### EO Defensibility

Can this occurrence be protected from extrinsic human factors?

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments: Public Land.

## EO RANK

A summary of all factors listed above.

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

## Comments:

Relatively good site, likely that stem count is very conservative, as recent flooding and silt deposition has covered vegetation.

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (if any)

- Each plant with many (ca. 20-50) fruiting stems.
- Specimen to be deposited at the Harvard Herbaria.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify under pains and penalties of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:



Date: 8 November 1999

Please submit form, a copy of a USGS topo map showing plant location, and all supporting documentation to the State Botanist at:

Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program  
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Route 135

Westborough, MA 01581

(508) 792-7270 ext 200

Thank you for contributing to the Natural Heritage &  
Endangered Species Program database. Your efforts are  
valuable and appreciated.

